



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held February 20, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Director of Children and Family Services' attached joint recommendation with the Chief Probation Officer to approve and authorize the Director of Children and Family Services and the Chief Probation Officer to submit the Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Capped Allocation Demonstration Project Five-Year Plan to the California Department of Social Services, to participate in the five-year demonstration project to test the effect of a flexible funding strategy on Child Welfare Outcomes. Also consideration of Supervisor Antonovich's recommendation to direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a five-signature letter to Governor Schwarzenegger requesting a State methodology for capped Title IV-E funding that mirrors the Federal funding guidelines, thus supporting Los Angeles County's goal of accelerated outcome improvements for children and families; and report back in 30 days on the progress of finalizing a Title IV-E Waiver Memorandum of Understanding between the State and the County.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following revised statement:

"On March 31, 2006, California accepted the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' offer to test a flexible Title IV-E foster care funding strategy focusing on prevention and intervention innovations to keep children safely in their homes. The five-year Title IV-E Waiver Capped Allocation Demonstration Project will allow for development and expansion of innovative service delivery strategies to further accelerate improved outcomes for both dependent and delinquent children and youth.

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“In April 2006, Los Angeles County estimated a flexible funding pool of \$369 million dollars in the first year of the waiver. Today’s estimate of \$73 million dollars for the entire five years of the waiver represents the flexible funding that will be available after expenditures covered by the waiver are paid. This is approximately \$15 million dollars in flexible funding per year.

“As of today, the State continues to negotiate with the Federal Department of Health and Human Services to reverse a decision regarding an additional disallowance that would reduce the estimated \$73 million dollars to \$56 million dollars. Submission of the County’s conceptual plan that we have before us today without knowing the outcome of these negotiations is neither required by the State nor a benefit to the progress of the waiver, but may result in the County’s over-estimating service programs as part of the waiver, potentially placing the County at great financial risk.

“The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is solidly committed to accelerating outcome improvements for children and families by implementation of the Title IV-E Waiver Capped Allocation Demonstration Project by July 1, 2007. It is anticipated that far greater flexible funding may be achieved as a result of the successful implementation of the various innovative waiver initiatives and strategies.”

David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer, and Patricia Ploehn, Director of Children and Family Services, responded to questions posed by the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Molina being absent), the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Prepare a five-signature letter to the Federal Department of Health and Human Services in support of the State’s position regarding the Federal disallowance;
2. Instruct the County’s Washington D.C. advocates to pursue the State and County’s position on the Federal disallowance issue;
3. Place the finalized Memorandum of Understanding between the State and the County and the IV-E Waiver conceptual plan on a future Board agenda no later than March 27, 2007; and

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4. Take all steps necessary to guarantee the County's implementation of the Title IV-E Waiver Capped Allocation Demonstration Project by July 1, 2007, and report back on a monthly basis regarding progress on the development of the County's IV-E Waiver Implementation Plan.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- Chief Probation Officer
- County Counsel
- Director of Children and Family Services